

Participation Agreement, Release, and Acknowledgment Of Risk

In consideration of the services of Vermont Kayak Tours, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, participants, employees, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "V.K.T."), I hereby agree to release and discharge V.K.T., on behalf of myself, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that kayaking on any body of water entails known, unknown or unanticipated risks which could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

The risks include, among other things: boat capsize; travel in remote areas; collision with objects or other water craft; prolonged exposure to cold water; hypothermia; accidental drowning; mental anguish or trauma; illness in remote areas; exposure to sun; strong wind; cold; storms; large waves; and lightening; wrist; arm; shoulder; and/ or back injuries; slips and falls while hiking; and rapidly changing adverse weather and water conditions.

Furthermore, V.K.T. guides have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be ignorant of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather, the elements, or the terrain. They may give inadequate warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.

3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless V.K.T. from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of V.K.T.'s equipment or facilities, including any such claims which allege negligent acts or emissions of V.K.T..

4. Should V.K.T. or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.

5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further certify that I have no medical or physical conditions which could interfere with my safety in this activity, or else I am willing to assume-- and bear the costs of-- all risks that may be created, directly or indirectly, by any such condition.

6. In the event that I file a lawsuit against V.K.T., I agree to do so solely in the state of Vermont, and I further agree that the substantive law of that state shall apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against V.K.T. on the basis of any claim from which I have released them herein.

I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and agree to be bound by its terms.

Signature of Participant: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: _____
Street: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

**PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S ADDITIONAL INDEMNIFICATION
(Must be completed for participants under age 18 years)**

In consideration of _____ (print minor's name) ("Minor") being permitted by V.K.T. to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless V.K.T. from any and all claims which are brought by, or on behalf of Minor, and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor

Parent or Guardian : _____ **Print Name:** _____ **Date** _____